

REMARKS

Without acquiescing to the propriety of the rejections in the Office Action dated October 29, 2008, claim 1 has been amended, claim 4 has been cancelled, and new claims 15 and 16 have been added. Entry of these amendments, reconsideration of the present patent application and allowance of all claims pending herein are respectfully requested in view of the remarks below. Claims 1-3 and 5-16 are now pending.

Initially, applicant gratefully acknowledges the time granted its undersigned representative on February 27, 2009 in which the Office Action and cited references were discussed. The above listed amendments are believed to be in accordance with this conversation and the pending claims are believed to be allowable.

35 U.S.C. § 103:

Claims 1, 2, 4-9, 11, 13 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Claeijs (International Publication No. WO 97/37835).

Amended claim 1 of the present application recites, *inter alia*, a reinforcing part obtained by resin transfer molding which includes a first woven layer joined to a second woven layer. A first plurality of first warp threads of the first layer are aligned parallel to a second plurality of second warp threads of the second layer. A first plurality of first weft threads of the first layer are aligned at a first angle relative to the first plurality of first warp threads. A second plurality of second weft threads of the second layer are aligned at a second angle relative to the second plurality of second warp threads. The first angle and the second angle are about equal to each other such that the first plurality of first weft threads and the second plurality of second weft threads are symmetrical to each other about the first plurality of first warp threads and the second plurality of second warp threads.

Support for the amendments to claim 1 may be found in paragraphs [0028] and [0029] of the published application. For example, paragraph [0029] describes weft threads of an upper layer and weft threads of a lower layer being symmetrical to each other.

Claeijs discloses a reinforcement for use in composites which may include a first layer consisting of a plurality of substantial parallel filament bundles and at least a second layer which consists of a plurality of substantially parallel filament bundles as described in the abstract. The second layer lies at an angle relative to the first layer and the first and second layers are adhered to one another. Example 1 on page 5 of Claeijs discloses a woven fabric having a first woven fabric and a second woven fabric layered in a reverse position onto the first. However, there is no disclosure in Claeijs of two woven layers joined to each other having warp threads substantially parallel to each other and weft threads of one layer aligned at a first angle relative to the warp threads and weft threads of a second layer aligned at a second angle relative to the warp threads wherein the first and second angles are about equal to each other such that the weft threads of each layer are symmetrical to each other about the warp threads. Instead, the Claeijs reference merely discloses the possibility of two woven layers being joined to each other but there is no disclosure of weft threads of each being aligned such that they would be symmetrical about parallel warp threads of the two layers.

Accordingly, because all the features (e.g., a first plurality of warp threads of a first layer aligned parallel to the second plurality of warp threads of a second layer, a first plurality of first weft threads of the first layer aligned at a first angle relative to the first plurality of first warp threads, a second plurality of second weft threads of the second layer aligned at a second angle relative to the second plurality of second warp threads, and the first angle and the second angle being about equal to each other such that the first plurality of first weft threads and the second plurality of second weft threads are symmetrical to each other about the warp threads) of claim 1 of the present application are not disclosed, taught, suggested, or otherwise made obvious by Claeijs, claim 1 cannot be obvious over the proposed combination. Claim 1 is thus believed to be allowable along with independent claim 16 and the dependent claims, which are believed to be allowable for the same reasons as claim 1 and for their own additional features.

Claims 3 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious Claeijs and further in view of Inoguchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,168,006). As indicated above, these claims are believed to be allowable for the same reasons as their base independent claim and for their own additional features.

New Claims:

New claims 15 and 16 have been added. Support for these claims may be found in the specification and original claims as filed. Thus, no new matter has been added and these claims are believed to be allowable over the cited references.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that the application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at the telephone number provided.

Respectfully submitted,



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